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Patent Attorney Docket No. 23534-0007-1600/2900

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
F. Abel Ponce de Leon et al) Group Art Unit: 1633
Application No. 09/127,624) Examiner: D. Clark
Filed: August 3, 1998)
For: PROLONGED CULTURING OF AVIAN)
(CHICKEN) PRIMORDIAL GERM CELLS)
(PGCs) USING SPECIFIC GROWTH)
FACTORS, USE THEREOF TO PRODUCE)
CHIMERIC AVIANS (CHICKENS))

REPLY TO THE OFFICE ACTION PURSUANT TO 37
C.F.R. §1.112

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Reply is responsive to the Office Action dated May 16, 2000. Kindly enter the following remarks and amendments in response thereto prior to further examination:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 10-13, 15, 16, 18-20 and 22-28 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for culturing avian primordial germ cells comprising maintaining said avian primordial germ cells for periods of at least fourteen days in tissue culture comprising the following steps:

- (i) isolating a pure population of primordial germ cells from a desired avian; and
- (ii) culturing said isolated, pure population of primordial germ cells (PGCs) in a culture medium comprising [containing at least the following] growth factors [contained] in amounts sufficient to maintain said PGCs for at least fourteen days in tissue culture[:
 - (1) leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF),
 - (2) basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF),
 - (3) stem cell factor (SCF) and